

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Dunn Commercial Historic District

Dunn, Harnett County, HT0133, Listed 9/9/2009
Nomination by Diane Young
Photographs by Diane Young, February 2009



200 Block of East Broad Street looking northeast



Intersection of 100 Block of East Broad Street
and South Wilson Avenue looking southwest



South Railroad Avenue looking northeast



225 East Edgerton Street

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of property

historic name Dunn Commercial Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Harnett St., Cumberland St., Clinton Ave., & Fayetteville Ave. not for publication N/A

city or town Dunn vicinity N/A

state North Carolina code NC county Harnett code 085 zip code 28334

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination
_____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets
_____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide
X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional
comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

_____ entered in the National Register

_____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined eligible for the

National Register

_____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined not eligible for the

National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain): _____

Dunn Commercial Historic District
Name of Property

Harnett County, North Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>54</u>	<u>10</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>55</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub: <u>department store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>professional</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>specialty store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>warehouse</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>hotel</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>single dwelling</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	<u>post office</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>theater</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>	<u>rail-related</u>

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub: <u>specialty store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>newspaper</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>professional</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>restaurant</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>department store</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>single dwelling</u>
<u>HEALTHCARE</u>	<u>medical business/office</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>	<u>rail-related</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

☐ Italianate
☐ Commercial Style
☐ Colonial Revival
☐ Queen Anne
☐ Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation masonry
roof asphalt, rubber
walls masonry, stucco, stone, granite,
wood
other wood, aluminum

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Dunn Commercial Historic District
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County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or a grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Community Planning and Development

Transportation

Period of Significance

1886 – 1959

Significant Dates

1886

1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Jones Brothers and Co., Wilson, NC

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Dunn Commercial Historic District
Name of Property

Harnett County, North Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 14 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
1 17 717090 3910040
2 17 717360 3909880

Zone Easting Northing
3 17 717540 3909920
4 17 717620 3909880
X See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane M. Young

organization Downtown Graphics Network, Inc. date March 18, 2009

street & number 1409 S. Fulton Street telephone (704)637-0855

city or town Salisbury state NC zip code 28144

12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

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Dunn Commercial Historic District
Harnett County, North Carolina

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Dunn Commercial Historic District lies within the original Dunn town limits and includes two blocks of East Edgerton Street, four blocks east and west along Broad Street, three blocks north and south along Clinton Avenue, two blocks north and south along Wilson Avenue, and one block of South Railroad Avenue. The district contains fifty-five contributing buildings (eighty-five percent of the resources in the district) with dates of construction ranging from circa 1900 to circa 1959, and one structure, the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad right-of-way, constructed in 1886. The buildings have predominantly commercial uses and represent a period of economic growth and prosperity experienced in Dunn during the first half of the twentieth century. Comprising the bulk of Dunn's central business district, the Dunn Commercial Historic District is bounded to the north, east, and west by predominantly residential neighborhoods, and to the south by commercial strip development with residential areas beyond.

The town of Dunn was laid out in relation to the railroad tracks running north-south down what became Railroad Avenue, with east-west streets running perpendicular to the railroad tracks and north-south avenues running parallel. Established alleys run north-south through the center of each city block. The district includes two residential properties in the 200 block of East Edgerton Street, the (former) Dunn Post Office located in the 100 block of West Broad Street, and a former hotel in the 100 block of South Clinton Avenue. The rest of the properties are commercial in nature. The district is a physical record of the commercial development within this community which took place as a direct result of the railroad being extended through Dunn by the Atlantic Coast Line in 1886. Of the five municipalities in Harnett County, the Dunn Commercial Historic District is the largest collection of commercial early twentieth-century architectural resources in Harnett County.

The predominance of commercial uses within the district lends itself to common themes of materials and architectural styles. Resources in the district are a combination of one- and two-story buildings, with the exceptions being the three-story Fitchett Drug Store (128 East Broad Street, circa 1912) and the four-story Cottdale Hotel (116 – 124 South Clinton Avenue, 1924). Brick is the predominant building material, with granite used in sills, lintels, and copings. Some of the earliest resources are found in the 100 block of South Railroad Avenue, and while small in nature (single-story, one to two bays in width) they display intricate masonry work and the only remaining cast iron columns. The 100 block of East Broad Street was constructed within the first and second decades of the twentieth century and contain mostly two-story masonry buildings, with some use of rock-faced concrete block. The Fleishman Brothers Company building (107 East Broad Street, circa 1925) has a flat facade exhibiting intricate brickwork and stepped

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parapets. Several buildings within this block also contain arched windows with masonry lintels and decorative brickwork. Beyond the 100 block of East Broad Street the buildings become smaller in nature, constructed mostly between 1920 and 1940, and have simple brick detailing with flat masonry panels, soldier courses, and small corbelled cornices. Toward the fringe of the district are larger buildings used for warehousing and manufacturing purposes.

As is typical of most downtowns, many of the buildings in the Dunn Commercial Historic District have had their original storefronts and upper story windows replaced with more contemporary components. Several transoms are intact, with the windows either painted or covered in plywood. Today very few buildings remain sheathed in later metal, and several flat metal canopies have been removed.

INVENTORY LIST

The inventory is arranged alphabetically by street and, within each street, from lowest to highest address number. The east side of a street is listed before the west side, and the north side is listed before the south side. The inventory provides the contributing or noncontributing status, location, dates of construction, and a description of each resource. The data represents a combination of sources, including on-site inspections, Sanborn maps, telephone directories, and local history publications. Properties identified as contributing are those that were present during the period of significance, relate to the documented significance of the district, and possess a significant degree of architectural integrity. Those properties identified as noncontributing were either not present during the period of significance, do not relate to the documented significance of the district, or due to alterations no longer possess a substantial degree of architectural integrity. The sources used to establish a date of construction specific to each property are identified in parentheses at the end of the property's entry.

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad Right-of-Way

running north-south, paralleling Railroad Avenue, 1886 , contributing structure

Constructed in 1886 by the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad (later known as the Atlantic Coast Line). The railroad right-of-way through Dunn was obtained from Henry Pope, who deeded to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad a strip of land 130 feet wide and sixty-five feet in each direction from the center of the rails.

East Broad Street (North side)

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Fleishman Brothers Company Building

107 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

This two-story seven-bay Commercial Style brick building has a recently constructed metal storefront. The storefront's left-hand side is slightly recessed behind a pair of smooth columns, while the right-hand side is flush with the building's upper façade and is accented by a rounded fabric awning. The upper façade is intact with one-over-one double-hung windows set in a double, triple, double fenestration pattern. The flat, balanced upper façade is decorated with geometric patterns of brickwork that include diaper work running vertically up the sides of the building, and a series of brick panels outlined in matching brick laid as both soldiers and stretchers. The crenellated and stepped parapet is capped by a granite coping. Occupants include the Fleishman Brothers Company, dry goods, in the 1920s and Leder Brothers Department Store by the late 1950s. The former building on this site housed the Opera House on the second floor. This former building is visible in a circa 1913 postcard from the North Carolina collection at UNC Chapel Hill. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories, North Carolina Postcards)

O.P. Shell Building

115 East Broad Street, circa 1913, contributing building

Next to a mid-block alley is this two-story three-bay brick building constructed by O.P. Shell, a local attorney. The storefront level has been recently altered. Stained wood paneled and glazed display windows with a multi-light transom above are installed between wide brick piers. To the left is a recessed front entrance. The upper façade remains intact with three window openings now containing aluminum-framed windows with rowlock sills. A corbelled cornice terminates the building. The eastern, nine-bay elevation facing the alley has regularly-spaced windows and one second-story door opening that are all currently covered in plywood. The stepped parapet is protected by a terra-cotta coping. Occupants included O.P. Shell, the owner, and the U.S. 5 & 10 Cent Store in 1918, the Great A & P Tea Company, grocer, in 1926, and Wilbourne's, Inc., an appliance store, in 1957. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Barnes and Holliday Company Building

117 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

This two-story two-bay building is one of four rock-faced concrete block facades within the one hundred block of East Broad Street. A flush aluminum-framed storefront sits within the original

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opening. The upper story contains double-hung wood windows. The cornice appears to be missing. The west elevation (alley side) is exposed red brick laid in common bond, with a stepped parapet finished in a terra-cotta coping. Dunn City Directories from 1918 and 1926 show the Barnes and Holliday Company was housed here, selling everything from furniture and Edison phonographs to farm implements, while staff also served as an embalmer and a funeral director. By 1957 the business changed to the Cromartie Hardware Company, Inc., with the Security Mutual Burial Association and the Home Building and Loan Association located upstairs. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Morgan Brothers Feed Store Building

121 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

A single-story three-bay building with a painted brick façade, the intact storefront contains display windows atop wood bulkheads. A fabric awning covers the original storefront transom area, now closed with plywood. The recessed entry leads to a single wood door with a three-pane transom and screen door. Bands of brick corbelling create the simple cornice. Businesses occupying this space have included the Morgan Brothers Feed Store, 1918, H.O. Mattox, grocer, 1926, and Hodges T. Motor Parts, late 1950s. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Holliday Hardware Company Building

123 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

This two-story three-bay Italianate painted brick building with an intact upper façade has a modern storefront with a recessed entrance on the left-hand side. A rounded fabric awning is installed directly underneath the corbelled storefront cornice. The upper façade has regularly spaced one-over-one double-hung wood windows with round-arched masonry hood moldings terminating in a corbelled belt course. Above the windows are recessed brick panels. The parapet is accented with corbelled pendants with raised brick diamonds directly below the brick cornice. B. Fleishman and Brothers Department Store was located here in 1918, prior to moving to 107 East Broad Street. Other occupants included the Holliday Hardware Company, 1926, and Harnett Hardware in the late 1950s. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Taylor-Wade Building

125 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

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There are many similarities between this Italianate building and its neighbor at 123 East Broad Street. This two-story four-bay painted brick building has a modern storefront with recessed entry set into the original storefront opening. To the right of the storefront is a narrow round-arched door opening. A frame for a rounded fabric awning is mounted directly below the corbelled mid-level cornice and spans across the storefront level from end to end. The upper story's regularly spaced round-arched window openings contain fabric awnings. Masonry hood moldings terminate in a brick belt course. Original windows have been replaced with aluminum-framed units. Above each window is a recessed masonry panel. A corbelled masonry cornice with corbelled pendants is below a crenellated parapet. Deed records indicate the Bank of Dunn was housed here at some point in the early 1900s. By 1926 the Home Hardware occupied this space, with a gift shop and the Copper Kettle Tea Room upstairs. Culbreth-Hutaff, Inc., an insurance company, was the tenant in the late 1950s. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories, Harnett County Register of Deeds)

Turlington Building

129 East Broad Street, circa 1930, contributing building

Sitting at the northwest corner of the intersection of East Broad Street and North Wilson Avenue is this imposing Commercial Style two-story unpainted brick building. It replaced two buildings that previously stood on this lot. Both the three-bay East Broad Street elevation and the eleven-bay North Wilson Avenue elevation have large aluminum-framed windows at both the streetfront and upper-story levels. The upper-story windows are highlighted with stone keystones that contrast sharply in color with the dark brick. A continuous stone belt course serves as the sill for the upper story windows. The flat masonry façade contains patterned brickwork in horizontal and vertical bands. The parapet is outlined in a granite coping and alternates in a regular rhythm between flat and inclined to create a geometric pattern. The building originally housed offices for bus transportation and telegraph services, along with numerous insurance agents, accountants, lawyers, and dentists. The Butler and Carroll Drug Company and the Godwin Jewelry Store were two of the first-floor tenants in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1956, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Prince's Department Store Building

201 East Broad Street, circa 1930, contributing building

This two-story unpainted Commercial Style red brick building stands at the northeast corner of East Broad Street and North Wilson Avenue, and replaced an earlier three-story structure. Its six-bay façade is highlighted at the sides and center by full-height pilasters decorated with granite

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panels. The storefront openings contain modern materials including aluminum-framed display windows set atop newer brick bulkheads. A pair of aluminum-framed doors is slightly recessed within the left-side storefront. Flat metal canopies are installed across the bottom of the storefront transoms which are now covered in plywood. Original second-story window openings framed with bands of soldier course bricks contain double-hung windows with stone sills. Windows are in a one-three-one pattern on each half of the façade. Directly below each window opening is a panel of brick laid in a basket weave pattern. Above the windows are long horizontal panels of header course bricks outlined by a border of soldier course bricks. The façade is terminated by granite coping with raised caps at the pilasters. The side (west) elevation has a band of granite panels across the bottom and repeats much of the detailing of the façade, including an aluminum-framed display window protected by a flat metal canopy toward the southwest corner of the building, granite-paneled pilasters at each end, window openings framed by soldier course bricks, stone window sills, basket weave panels below each of the window openings, horizontal panels of header course bricks outlined by soldier course bricks, and a granite coping. What appears to be an original door opening framed with soldier course brick now contains a six-panel door. Large rectangular window openings, also framed with soldier course bricks, are located directly below the upper-story windows at storefront transom height. The side-elevation upper-story windows are installed mostly in pairs with a triple grouping toward the front, and have rectangular transoms. All windows on the side elevation are now covered in painted plywood with an applied molding. Prince's Department Store was located here in the 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Baer Dry Goods Store

203 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

A two-story three-bay red brick building, this commercial building with an unadorned brick façade and simple corbelled cornice is typical of many commercial buildings contemporary to this building. The storefront has been modernized and now contains aluminum-framed display windows and recessed aluminum-framed doors. A flat metal canopy covered with a fabric valance and supported by round steel columns, and a mid-level cornice, both stretch across this façade and that of the adjacent building at 205 East Broad Street. The upper-story window openings with stone sills and lintels now contain aluminum-framed windows. Occupants include Baer Dry Goods in 1926 and Louis Bauer Department Store in 1957. (1918, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926 and 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Carolina Power and Light Company Building

205 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

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This two-story four-bay brick building is very similar to its neighbor at 203 East Broad Street, although its red brick is darker than that of the adjacent building. The storefronts are visually connected by a flat metal canopy, now covered by a fabric valance, and a mid-level cornice that stretch across the face of both facades. The current storefront of 205 East Broad Street has aluminum-framed display windows and a recessed pair of aluminum-framed doors. Like its neighbor the upper-story windows have been replaced with fixed aluminum-framed windows, while the original stone sills and lintels have been retained. The simple corbelled brick cornice is also a continuation of the cornice on the adjacent building. Occupants have included the Carolina Power and Light Company in 1926. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Christo-Cola Bottling Works Building

207 East Broad Street, circa 1913, contributing building

Situated next to a mid-block alley, this two-story brick building with Italianate influences has a three-bay painted brick façade. The modernized storefront with a recessed entry is protected by a flat metal canopy with a fabric valance. The upper story has retained three regularly spaced window openings that now contain aluminum-framed windows. A horizontal band of sawtooth brick runs between the windows and is integrated into the masonry label moldings surrounding the windows, as well as below the corbelled masonry cornice. The brick on the exposed six-bay side (east) elevation is also painted. Original windows have been replaced with aluminum-framed units. Side entrances are still present to both the first and second floors. Occupants have included Christo-Cola Bottling Works in 1918, W. H. Sultan and Company, dry goods, and W. H. Adams, clothier in 1926, and Jackson's Shoe Store in 1957. (1918, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

W.H. Sultan and Company Building

215 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

The four-bay brick façade of this two-story building is painted on the streetfront level and unpainted on the upper façade. A flat metal canopy supported by slender metal pipe posts extends across the modernized angled storefront with recessed entry. Regularly-spaced upper-story windows with stone lintels and sills are covered with painted plywood. The cornice consists of a soldier course between two projecting bands of brick. A terra-cotta coping finishes the parapet. Occupants have included W.H. Sultan and Company, a dry goods store, in 1926, and The Spot Store, general merchandise, in 1957. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

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U-Save It Store Building

217 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

This single-story three-bay painted brick building has a modern flush storefront protected by a flat metal canopy supported by slender metal pipe posts. Above the storefront is a brick sign panel below the corbelled brick cornice. Occupants have included U-Save It Store, a grocery, in 1926, and Western Auto in 1957. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Lester Coats Café Building

219 East Broad Street, circa 1935, contributing building

This painted single-story six-bay brick building of no distinct architectural style has a modified wood-framed storefront that includes two separate entry doors separated by narrow display windows, with larger display windows at both the right and left side of the storefront opening. The storefront is shaded by a flat metal canopy supported by slender metal pipe posts. The simple corbelled brick cornice is protected by a metal coping. Occupants have included Lester Coats Café in 1926 and the Chamber of Commerce in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

J.R. Cannady Grocery Building

301 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

301 East Broad Street is one of a delightful grouping of seven single-story brick buildings of no distinct architectural style along the north side of the 300 block of East Broad Street. The painted three-bay façade has a metal-framed storefront with a single recessed entry door. The original leaded glass transom remains intact underneath the roll-top fabric awning. A simple corbelled masonry cornice above a course of brick set at an angle finishes the facade. The side (west) elevation contains a separate storefront toward the rear of the building consisting of a pair of wood three-quarter-light entry doors with a transom (now covered in plywood) centered between two three-over-three double-hung windows. Occupants have included J.R. Cannady, Inc., grocer, 1926, and Dunn Furniture Company, 1957. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Tart and Son Grocery Building

303 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

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303 East Broad Street is the second in a grouping of seven single-story buildings in the 300 block of East Broad Street. Its painted three-bay façade contains a balanced storefront with a recessed wood three-quarter-light door. The leaded-glass transom is exposed. Underneath the simple corbelled cornice is a decorative course of brick set at an angle. Occupants have included Tart and Son, grocer, 1926, and Thomas A. Naylor, barber, in 1957. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

Broughton Brothers Dry Goods Store Building

305 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

The third in a grouping of seven single-story brick buildings of no particular style in this block, the painted three-bay brick façade has two entry doors, one flush and one recessed, separated by flush display windows. The intact leaded-glass transom has been painted. A small metal canopy is installed directly below the transom. The simple corbelled cornice with a course of brick set at an angle, as seen at both 301 and 303 East Broad Street, is repeated here. Occupants have included Broughton Brothers, dry goods, 1926, and the Farmers Café in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943

Dunn Seafood Market Building

307 East Broad Street, circa 1935, contributing building

One of seven single-story brick buildings in the 300 block of East Broad Street, this painted brick two-bay building has a metal-framed storefront that angles back to a single wood three-quarter-light entry door installed on the right-hand side. The transom area is covered by a sloped fabric awning. The painted façade is decorated with a row of bricks set at an angle on edge below a simple corbelled cornice. Occupants have included the Dunn Seafood Market in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Dunn Salvage Store Building

309 East Broad Street, circa 1935, contributing building

One of a grouping of seven single-story brick buildings of no distinct architectural style in this block, 309 East Broad Street is laid in a five-to-one common bond pattern. Its painted three-bay façade contains a small metal-framed storefront with a single recessed glazed and paneled wood door. The transom area is covered by a sloped fabric awning. One course of brick corbelling provides a simple cornice. Occupants have included the Dunn Salvage Store in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

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J.C. Morgan Meat Market

311 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

This two-bay building is one of a grouping of seven painted single-story brick buildings in the 300 block of East Broad Street. The modern aluminum-framed storefront angles back to a single aluminum entry door offset to the right. Above the storefront opening is a band of vertically laid alternating soldiers and headers. The corbelled brick cornice, heavier than on the other buildings in this grouping, is above two courses of brick set at an angle. Occupants have included J.C. Morgan Meat Market, 1926, and Lee's Market and Grocery in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

R.W. Pope Grocery Building

313 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

The last of a grouping of seven single-story painted brick buildings, this three-bay façade is one of two in this group where the brick is laid in a five-to-one common bond pattern. The recently modified storefront has an off-center recessed entry with a single full light door with fluted trim. A sloped fabric awning covers the transom area. A single course of corbelling provides the simple cornice. Occupants have included R.W. Pope, grocer, 1926, and M.F. Hodges & Sons Grocers, 1957. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

East Broad Street (South side)

(vacant lot)

White Way Theater Building

106 East Broad Street, circa 1904, contributing building

This Italianate-style two-story three-bay painted brick building has a modern aluminum-framed storefront surmounted by a sizeable fabric awning. The tall upper-story window openings with fabric awnings now contain aluminum-framed windows with round-arched continuous label molding. A corbelled cornice is above a recessed sign panel. The coping is missing. Occupants have included Langley's Barber Shop, 1918, the Colonial Theater and White Way Theater, 1926, and Home Savings & Loan Association, 1959. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Map)

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Dunn Banking Company Building

110 East Broad Street, circa 1904, contributing building

An Italianate-style two-story three-bay painted brick building with a modern aluminum-framed storefront. Brick corbelling above the storefront opening separates the storefront level from the upper façade. Three regularly spaced round-arched window openings with keystones and continuous label molding contain one-over-one double-hung wood windows with arched transoms. A corbelled brick cornice and crenellated parapet terminates the facade. To the left of the storefront is a single streetfront entrance to the interior stairs accessing the second floor. The entry's large round-arched opening with keystone has been infilled with painted plywood to accommodate the present standard-size flush door. Dunn Banking Company operated in this location in 1904. Other occupants have included State Bank and Trust Company, 1918, Quality Ice Cream and Candy Company, 1926, and Dunn Furniture Company, late 1950s. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Hood and Grantham Building

112 East Broad Street, circa 1904, contributing building

A two-story three-bay painted Italianate-style brick building, the storefront has been modernized with a replacement aluminum-framed storefront with recessed entry and a flat metal awning. Metal sheathing has been installed over the façade surrounding the storefront. The upper façade is largely intact with three regularly spaced round-arched window openings with continuous label molding. The center window opening has been bricked-in. The other two windows have one-over-one sashes with arched transoms, at this time two of the lower sashes and one transom are covered in metal sheathing. Centered above each window is a recessed brick panel. Above the panels is a heavy dentiled metal cornice, dropped slightly below the granite-capped crenellated parapet. The east elevation faces the mid-block alley and is a nine-bay painted brick elevation with a stepped parapet with a terra-cotta coping. The windows are currently covered with plywood. The Hood and Grantham Drug Store (later Hood's Drug Store) occupied this space for over fifty-five years. The building had numerous other tenants, including attorneys, dentists, physicians, insurance agents, and E.J. Hudson, an agent for Delco Light System. (1904, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

J.W. Draughton Dry Goods Building

114 East Broad Street, circa 1913, noncontributing building

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This two-story building has a modern aluminum-framed storefront with a recessed entry. Metal sheathing covers the upper façade of both this building and the adjacent property at 120 east Broad Street. The side (west) elevation faces the mid-block alley. It's exposed unpainted brick is laid in a five-to-one common bond pattern. Occupants have included the J.W. Draughton Dry Goods Store, 1918, and the Johnson Department Store, 1926. Clarence D. Bain, a local dentist, is identified as having operated from this building in the 1918, 1926, and 1957 Dunn City Directories. (1913 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

R.G. Taylor Dry Goods Company

120 East Broad Street, circa 1913, noncontributing building

A two-story building with a modern storefront with a recessed entry under a flat metal canopy, its upper façade is sheathed in metal that stretches across the upper façade of the adjacent building at 114 East Broad Street. Both the 1918 and 1926 Dunn City Directories list R.G. Taylor Dry Goods Company at this location. Rose's 5-10-25 Cent Store was located here in 1957. (1913 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

J.W. Jordan Jewelers Building

122 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

This two-story two-bay rock-faced concrete block building has a modern storefront with a recessed entry. The original leaded glass transom above the storefront is intact. To the left of the storefront is the streetfront entry to the second floor, which now includes a six-panel door with transom above. A metal denticulated cornice stretches across the storefront above the transoms. The two original window openings in the upper façade now contain aluminum-framed windows. J.W. Jordan Jewelers is listed as an occupant in 1918, and continued at this location for over forty years, becoming known as Jordan's Jewelry Store by 1959. Other occupants have included L.J Best, attorney, 1918, and P.A. Stewart, optician, 1926. (1908 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Ryals Building

124 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

A two-story two-bay building veneered in rock-faced concrete block, the storefront's metal display windows are set above stuccoed bulkheads. The recessed entry contains two wood three-quarter-light entry doors, one along the angled plane of the display windows and the second at the traditional location in the center of the storefront recess. A sloped awning covers the

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storefront transom. The mid-level cornice is missing. The upper façade contains two original window openings that are now covered in plywood. Occupants have included A.E. Norris, general merchandise, and J.W. Wilson, attorney, 1918, Morris Frost, clothier, 1926, and Central Barber Shop, 1957. (1908 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957 Dunn City Directories)

J.L. Thompson and Company Building

126 East Broad Street, circa 1908, contributing building

This two-story three-bay building of no distinct architectural style has a modern aluminum-framed storefront with a recessed entry with a pair of aluminum-framed entry doors. The storefront transom and mid-level cornice location are covered by a flush panel. The upper façade is veneered in rock-faced concrete block. Two original window openings now contain aluminum-framed windows. Occupants have included J.L. Thompson and Company, general merchandise, 1918, W.J. Thompson Dry Goods, 1926, and Stelens Women's Clothing, late 1950s. (1908 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Fitchett Drug Store

128 East Broad Street, circa 1912, contributing building

The Fitchett Drug Store is a three-story three-bay Italianate-influenced unpainted brick building located on the southwest corner of East Broad Street and Wilson Avenue. A modern aluminum-framed storefront is surmounted by an oversized sloped fabric awning that returns along the side elevation to offer shelter over a wood framed display window with a paneled bulkhead. A denticulated mid-level cornice remains above the storefront. Above the storefront are regularly spaced round-arched window openings with concrete sills that now contain fixed wood windows below arched transoms. Above the windows is a sign panel outlined in brick. The façade cornice was removed in the late twentieth century. A terra-cotta coping runs along both the façade and the side elevation where the parapet steps down toward the rear. The side (east) elevation has two streetfront entrances, one is a flush wood door with a rounded fabric awning above; the second entry door is recessed beyond an original round-arched opening. To the left of this second entrance is a wood-framed display window with a round-arched transom above a wood paneled bulkhead. Along the streetfront level of the Wilson Avenue elevation are a row of rectangular wood-framed fixed sash single light windows. The round-arched upper-story windows found on the façade are repeated along the second and third floors of the Wilson Avenue elevation. The 1918 Dunn City Directory lists McKay Pharmacy as the occupant. Fitchett Drug Store had taken over this location by 1926 and continued to operate here for over thirty years. Western Union

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Telegraph Company was also located here in the 1920s. (1908, 1913 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

O.L. Duncan Building

214 East Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

A two-story four-bay red brick building, the masonry is painted at the façade's storefront level and on the side elevation. A modern storefront that incorporates the use of stained wood and aluminum-framed display windows is constructed within the original storefront opening. A sloped 5-V metal canopy is installed above the storefront. The tall original upper-story window openings with stone sills and lintels contain aluminum-framed windows. Above the windows is a decorative masonry cornice consisting of a four-course band of projecting brick, three courses of brick corbelling, and one course of brick laid on an angle. The side (west) elevation has three entrance doors, one to the first floor, a second, which is protected by a small sloped metal canopy, that leads to a second-floor entrance, and a third that has been bricked-in. This third entrance is flanked by an original window opening on each side that has been bricked-in as well, the sills are still present. Toward the front of this elevation are two rectangular fixed sash windows with original sills, shutters have been added recently. The original tall window openings with stone sills and lintels on the façade are repeated down the side elevation. The aluminum-framed windows are repeated in these openings, with one opening bricked-in toward the rear. Two smaller window openings also exist toward the rear of the side elevation. The building terminates vertically in a single header course of brick laid on edge that runs across the facade parapet and along the stepped parapet running down the side elevation. Occupants have included O.L. Duncan, barber, 1926, and Stanley's Credit Jewelers, late 1950s. (1925 Sanborn Map, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

T.R. Hood and Company Drugstore Building

218 East Broad Street, circa 1925, noncontributing building

This single-story three-bay building of no distinct architectural style has applied green glass panels around the aluminum-framed storefront. Aluminum display windows set atop masonry bulkheads that have been covered in glass panels (the panels are missing on one side) and flank a wide recessed entry that contains a pair of aluminum-framed doors. A large full-light aluminum-framed window is located on each side of the door with a horizontal rectangular transom above. The storefront is sheltered by a flat metal canopy supported by thin pipe columns, with one square wood column on the right front corner. Above the awning the façade is sheathed in painted wood siding. Across the top of the parapet is a terra-cotta coping. Occupants have

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included the T.R. Hood and Company Drugstore, 1926, and the Dunn Warren's Pharmacy, late 1950s (1925 Sanborn Map, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

A.B. Naylor Grocery Building

220 – 222 East Broad Street, circa 1925, noncontributing building

Stucco has been applied to the façade of this single-story three-bay building. A centered aluminum-framed two-door entrance with sidelights is flanked by aluminum-framed display windows on both sides. The entrance and windows sit back slightly from the square stuccoed columns with corbelled caps that separate the three bays. The projecting center bay is taller than the rest of the façade. A stuccoed corbelled cornice terminates the facade. Occupants have included A.B. Naylor, grocer, 1926, and E. Bauer & Sons Department Store in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

(vacant lot)

The Driver Block

300 - 312 East Broad Street, circa 1935, contributing building

Located on the southeast corner of East Broad Street and South Clinton Avenue is this Commercial Style-influenced single-story eighteen-bay building. The western half of the façade is unpainted red brick, while the eastern façade is painted. A soldier course runs the entire length of the building directly above the storefront openings. The cornice is composed of two courses of projecting brick, underneath is a band of brick in a basket weave pattern. The storefronts at 300 and 302 are very similar, with aluminum-framed display windows above brick bulkheads with a centered recessed entry with a single door, aluminum at 300 and wood at 302. Small shingled awnings are installed directly below the transoms which have been boarded up with wood siding. At 304 and 306 the storefront contains two recessed single leaf wood entry doors located at opposite sides of the storefront. Above a lead glass transom remains intact. The three storefronts at 308, 310, and 312 are identical. Metal-framed display windows above brick bulkheads surround centered recessed entries with single-leaf doors, wood at 308 and 310 and aluminum-framed at 312. The transom areas of all three storefronts are now covered in signboards. The Driver family has owned this property for a number of years. Deed research has not conclusively pinpointed the exact date of acquisition. The portion of the property at 304 and 306 was sold by the Driver family to Baer and Sons. The balance of the property remains in the hands of Dottie Turner Driver. While further research might determine this building is actually six separate properties constructed at the same time, with the knowledge at hand it is believed to be one

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property. Occupants have included Lee Ruth Shop, clothing, 1957, Pope and Mattox Department Store, 1959, Joe the Cleaner, 1957 and 1959, Cannady's Store, general merchandise, 1957 and 1959, The Dollar General Store, 1957 and 1959, Four County Supply Feed and Seed, 1957 and 1959, and the San Fish Market, 1957. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories).

WEST BROAD STREET (North side)

Purdie-Hooks Building

100 West Broad Street, circa 1913, contributing building

This two-story four-bay brick building of no distinct architectural style has an unpainted red-brick façade. The brick is laid in an English bond pattern. The original double entrances have been modified and enclosed. The upper-story windows are original, regularly spaced pairs of wood one-over-one double-hung windows with stone sills and lintels. A granite cornice runs across the front elevation below the granite-capped parapet. The side elevations are painted masonry with stepped parapets, a terra-cotta coping, and original wood one-over-one double-hung windows, found in singles and pairs on the second story. Occupants have included Purdie-Hooks Company, grocers, C. J. Smith and M. T. Young, attorneys, 1918, and Thomas Hodges Grocery, P.L. Cantrell and D.L. Farmer, civil engineers, Maynard Electric Company, 1926. (1908, 1913, 1925 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926 Dunn City Directories)

Commercial Building

108 West Broad Street, 1984, noncontributing building

A single-story red brick four-bay building, the façade has three aluminum-framed windows with rowlock brick sills and a single aluminum-framed entry door protected by a rounded fabric awning. Below the concrete coping is a soldier course of brick. (Harnett County tax records)

Johnson Cotton Company Building

114 West Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

This Romanesque-influenced two-story five-bay painted brick building has a modernized storefront with a mid-level cornice spanning the front elevation. The upper façade contains original one-over-one double-hung windows in singles and pairs. The windows have rough-faced granite sills and lintels, with the exception of the center pair where the opening is supported by a

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depressed three-centered masonry arch. Masonry quoins of unpainted red brick delineate the edges of the façade. Below the stone coping is a course of brick dentiling. Occupants have included Johnson Brothers, dry goods and general merchandise, 1918, Johnson Cotton Company and Department Store, 1926, The Suggs Company, electrical appliances, Upchurch's Sundries, late 1950s, and East Carolina Construction Company, late 1950s. (1913, 1925 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Dunn Furniture Company Building

116 West Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

A two-story two-bay red brick building, this building was constructed as a separate building from 118 West Broad Street, however, the upper levels of both are accessed by a common stair with a streetfront entrance. The original storefront has been replaced with aluminum-framed windows and entry door, and a mid-level cornice. The original window openings with granite sills and lintels now contain pairs of aluminum-framed windows. A masonry panel is directly below the dentiled brick cornice. Masonry rustication separates this building from the adjacent properties. The Dunn Furniture Company occupied this building in the 1920s. (1913, 1925 Sanborn Map, 1926 Dunn City Directory)

Marvin Wade Company Building

118 West Broad Street, circa 1925, contributing building

This two-story three-bay building was constructed as a separate building from 116 West Broad Street, however, the upper levels of both are accessed by a common stair with a streetfront entrance. The original storefront opening with a mid-level cornice now contains a modernized aluminum-framed storefront with a single entry door. The original window openings with granite sills and lintels now contain aluminum-framed windows. A masonry panel is directly below the dentiled brick cornice. At each end of the building is a masonry quoin. Occupants included the Marvin Wade Company, grocer and merchant, Merchants Fertilizer and Phosphate Company, and the Georgia Carolina Commercial School. (1913, 1925 Sanborn Map, 1926 Dunn City Directory)

WEST BROAD STREET (South side)

(former) Dunn Post Office

101 West Broad Street, 1937, contributing building

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Located on the southeast corner of Lucknow Road and West Broad Street, the (former) Dunn Post Office was constructed using WPA funds. This single-story Colonial Revival-style building with basement has a five-bay façade with red brick laid in an English bond pattern. Brick pilasters flank the central bay. The façade displays four twelve-over-twelve double-hung windows with granite sills and lintels. The central entry contains a pair of brass doors with a rectangular brass-framed transom above protected by a large flat metal awning. Fluted pilasters supporting a dentiled entablature surround the entry. A granite watercourse and a wood dentiled cornice stretches across the façade and wrap around the corners of the building, with the cornice running the length of the side elevations. The twelve-over-twelve sash configuration is repeated on the side elevations. The Internal Revenue Service Office was located in this building in the late 1950s. (Survey File, NCHPO, 1959 Dunn City Directory)

NORTH CLINTON AVENUE (East side)

Florence's Café Building

106 – 108 North Clinton Avenue, circa 1930, contributing building

A single-story seven-bay building with a painted brick façade, this property has two entrances flanked by modern windows set into the original openings with rowlock sills. The 106 side is a four-bay storefront with an off-center wood entry door with a three-light transom. The 108 side is a three-bay storefront with a centered wood door with a rounded fabric awning. A continuous soldier course runs across both storefronts above the windows and doors. A simple corbelled brick cornice finishes the facade. Occupants included Florence's Café, 1957 and 1959, Joseph Duke, barber, 1957, and the Elvis Grill, 1959. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Dr. Conrad B. Codrington Building

110 – 114 North Clinton Avenue, circa 1930, contributing building

This single-story eight-bay building with a painted brick façade has three independent storefronts. At 110 a wood-framed storefront has a wood entry door to the right with two wood framed display windows above flush wood bulkheads. The 112 storefront has a centered wood entry door with transom flanked by two narrow wood-framed display windows above wood bulkheads on each side. 114 has a wider storefront than the other two, with a centered wood entry door with transom flanked by narrow wood-framed display windows above wood bulkheads with an additional larger wood-framed display window on each side above a painted

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brick bulkhead. Newer brick steps lead to each of the entrance doors. The brickwork is expanded to planters at the 114 storefront. All three storefronts are protected with sloped awnings, constructed of metal at 110 and covered in fabric at 112 and 114. A corbelled brick cornice exists both directly above the storefront as well as toward the top of the façade. Scuppers drain water to downspouts located on the façade. Late 1950s occupants have included Queen City Cleaners, and Dr. Conrad B. Codrington, physician. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

McCormick-Deering Tractors Building

126 North Clinton Avenue, circa 1925, noncontributing building

126 North Clinton Avenue is a single-story unpainted red brick building of no distinct commercial style with a new brick veneer on the façade and modern infill storefront. A stepped parapet on the side elevation is finished with a terra-cotta coping. The original window and door openings are evident on the side elevation. Occupants included the McCormick-Deering Tractors, 1926, and Tractor and Auto Supply Company, and Moff Iron and Metal offices, 1957. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Modern Laundry and Cleaners Building

200 North Clinton Avenue, circa 1950, contributing building

Single-story unpainted red brick building with a three-bay façade. Brick is laid in a five-to-one common bond pattern. A central entry is flanked by a single window opening on each side with stone sills. The door and windows are now covered in painted plywood. A soldier course runs above the windows and door. In line with the outside edge of each window opening is a column of stretchers running up to the corbelled cornice. The Modern Laundry and Cleaners occupied this building in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Tractor and Auto Supply Company Building

202 – 204 North Clinton Avenue, circa 1955, noncontributing building

This single-story unpainted brick building has one portion that mirrors the adjacent building at 200 North Clinton Avenue in size, height, brick detailing, and window and door configuration, and a shorter section to the north that has undergone significant modifications to its garage door opening. The red brick is laid in a six-to-one common bond pattern. The taller southern section has a central entry flanked by a single window opening on each side with stone sills. The door and windows are now covered in painted plywood. A continuous soldier course runs above the

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windows and door. Above this soldier course and in line with the outside edge of each window opening is a column of stretchers running up to the corbelled cornice. The northern portion of this building is dominated by a large garage door opening supported by an oversized granite lintel. The opening has been infilled with brick to accommodate a narrower paneled and glazed garage door and a separate pedestrian entrance with a wood horizontal-paneled door. Above this entrance are three six-over-six windows. To the right of the garage door opening is another pedestrian entrance originally sized for a single door but was at some point expanded to fit a pair of wood doors. The soldier course above this door opening is sized for a single-door and was not extended when the opening was widened. To the south of this door is a window opening with a soldier course above. The window is now covered in painted plywood. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

FCX Farm Machine Service Building

210 North Clinton Avenue, circa 1950, contributing building

A large, single-story eight-bay building of no distinct architectural style with a painted brick façade and stepped parapet. A raised platform provides access to the two front entrances, recessed within metal-framed storefronts. A single-story addition to the south has two garage entrances which have been infilled with later doors, wood, and brick. A sloped metal awning spans the majority of the façade. Occupants have included the FCX Farm Machine Service and Nationwide Insurance Company. (1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

SOUTH CLINTON AVENUE (East side)

F.N. McLamb Grocery Building,

105 – 107 South Clinton Avenue, circa 1935, contributing building

The F.N. McLamb Grocery building is a single-story unpainted red brick two-bay commercial building with two storefront openings that now contain modern aluminum-framed storefronts. The transom areas remain intact, now covered in wood. Below the transom areas are small, shingled shed canopies. Three courses of projecting brick provide a simple cornice. Occupants have included F. N. McLamb Company, grocer, 1959. (1943 Sanborn Map, 1959 Dunn City Directory)

SOUTH CLINTON AVENUE (West side)

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Jackson and Crabtree Construction Company Building

104 South Clinton Avenue, circa 1925, contributing building

A pair of modern storefronts with a wood storefront cornice dominates this single-story six-bay painted brick building. A corbelled masonry cornice and terra-cotta coping complete the facade. To the right is what remains of a circa 1925 building that faced East Broad Street, a single-story two-bay fourteen foot wide section that was the rear portion of this earlier building. One door opening is infilled with brick laid in a basket weave pattern. The second door opening has a flush wood door set into a wood frame with a transom above containing a flush wood panel. A soldier course runs across the top of both door openings. A simple corbelled cornice terminates the facade. The side (north) elevation was originally an interior wall as evidenced by the chimneys; one still contains a thimble. Occupants have included Jackson and Crabtree Construction Company, 1926, Baer & Sons, Inc. (in the portion of the East Broad Street building), B & B Finance Co., 1957 and 1959, and Godwin Plumbing and Heating, 1959. (1913, 1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Godwin Plumbing and Heating Company Building

114 South Clinton Avenue, circa 1935, noncontributing building

The original storefront opening of this Commercial Style-influenced single-story one-bay unpainted brick building of no distinct architectural style has been infilled with brick. To the left side is a single modern door. Above the former storefront opening is a brick soldier course. Brick pilasters extending above the stepped parapet frame the ends of the building. Vertical bands of brick stretchers incorporating a contrasting brick color are present toward the top of each pilaster and on the facade. The side (north) elevation is painted brick with regularly spaced double-hung wood windows in singles and pairs with aluminum exterior storm windows. Occupants have included Godwin Plumbing and Heating Company, 1957, before they relocated to the Jackson and Crabtree Construction Company Building. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Cottondale Hotel

116 – 124 South Clinton Avenue, 1924, contributing building

The Cottondale Hotel is a four-story red brick parapeted Classical Revival-influenced building situated on the northwest corner of East Cumberland Street and South Clinton Avenue. There are three bays along South Clinton Avenue elevation and six bays on the East Cumberland Street facade. Along the streetfront level are regularly spaced large window openings supporting stone

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lintels, surmounted by stuccoed blind round arches with granite keystones. The upper-story windows are one-over-one double-hung with exterior storm windows. Between the streetfront-level and the second-story windows are a wide granite beltcourse, a granite panel below each second-story window, and a thinner granite beltcourse that serves as the sill for the second-story windows. Granite entablatures are above a majority of the second-story windows. The third-story windows have granite sills and lintels with keystones. The granite sills are repeated at the fourth-story windows, with granite panels above. The façade and side elevation are finished with a cornice with circular decoration. Brick quoins are found on the streetfront corners, between the first and second and seventh and eighth bays on the façade, and between each bay on the side elevation. A heavily altered single-story wing exists to the north on the S. Clinton Avenue elevation. Large openings have been infilled with brick to accommodate modern windows and doors. (Survey File, NCHPO, 1943 Sanborn Map, 1926 Dunn City Directory)

EAST EDGERTON STREET (North Side)

House

219 East Edgerton Street, circa 1900, contributing building

This one-story tri-gable house has weatherboard siding and a gambrel-roof rear addition. Brick infill has been added between the brick piers of the original foundation. The façade shed-roof porch wraps to the west side, supported by simple square posts with caps and balustrade. Windows are four-over-four double-hung. The roof is finished in asphalt shingles, with a central ridge chimney of unpainted red brick. (1904 Sanborn Map)

House

225 East Edgerton Street, circa 1900, contributing building

A one-story L-shaped house with a gable-on-hip standing-seam metal roof and two interior red brick chimneys, this weatherboard sided Queen Anne-style home is located on the northwest corner of North Clinton Avenue and East Edgerton Street. Windows are two-over-two double hung. Concrete block piers support the full façade porch that wraps around to the eastern elevation. A central gable is located over the porch entry. Above is a gable dormer with a louvered vent identical to that found in the main gable. A carport has been added to the rear. (1904 Sanborn Map)

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SOUTH RAILROAD AVENUE (East side)

Dr. I.F. Hicks Building

107 South Railroad Avenue, circa 1904, contributing building

A single-story three-bay painted brick building, the original storefront opening has been filled with later materials including weatherboard siding, paired nine-over-nine windows, and a centered six-panel door. The original cast iron columns that once flanked the entrance are still intact. Above the storefront two corbelled brick pendants flank decorative brickwork that includes three courses of dogtooth brick, two flat panels, and four courses of corbelling. This building housed the office of Dr. I. F. Hicks, physician, in the early part of the twentieth century (1918 and 1926 Dunn City Directory). The A & W Tavern occupied the building in the late 1950s. (1904, 1915 Sanborn Maps; 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Commercial Building

109 – 113 South Railroad Avenue, circa 1935, contributing building

A single-story five-bay painted six-to-one common bond brick building, the original storefront openings now contain aluminum-framed systems. The center bay has a deep recessed entry with aluminum-framed display windows. A flat metal awning extends out below the glass transom. The other two bays have aluminum-framed display windows with sloped fabric awnings. At each end is a downspout with an oversized hopper. A simple corbelled cornice spans the façade. This building served as the side entrance to the Dunn Furniture Company when it was located on East Broad Street in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Map, 1957 Dunn City Directory)

Commercial Building

115 South Railroad Avenue, circa 1935, noncontributing building

The original storefront opening of this single-story three-bay building has been infilled with brick. A modern aluminum door with a narrow side light and transom is flanked by an aluminum-framed single light window on each side. The corbelled cornice and downspout with oversized hopper found on the adjacent building is repeated here. (1943 Sanborn Map)

Driver's Sewing Machine Building

117 – 119 South Railroad Avenue, circa 1925, contributing building

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This single-story six-bay painted brick building has two later storefronts set into the original storefront openings. The storefront on the left has a recessed entry, flat metal awning, and exposed transom. On the right is a flush aluminum-framed storefront with central entry door flanked by a large display window on each side. Steel beams support the storefront openings. Above the beams are brick corbelling, three recessed brick panels, and corbelling within the top of each panel. The northern half served as a warehouse for Dunn Furniture Company in the late 1950s. During that same period, the southern half housed Driver's Sewing Machine repair operation. (1913, 1925 Sanborn Maps; 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Parrish and Driver Building

121 South Railroad Avenue, circa 1904, contributing building

This single-story three-bay painted brick Italianate-style building displays the most intricate brickwork found in the Dunn Commercial Historic District. While the storefront now consists of modern materials that include painted wood paneling and small eight-over-eight double-hung windows, a pair of three-quarter-light doors has been retained in the recessed entry that is flanked by original cast iron columns. Three large transom windows are intact. Above the storefront is one course of brick in a dogtooth pattern, a blind arcade with brick corbelling within each arched opening, another course of brick laid in a dogtooth pattern, and three panels of brick in a checkered pattern created by alternating projecting brick headers. The panels are separated by corbelled pendants. The pilasters at the edge of the building have regularly spaced horizontal bands consisting of one course of projecting brick below one course of brick laid in a dogtooth pattern. Occupants have included Parrish and Driver, piano and organ merchant, 1918, and J.J. Stephenson Confectioners and Lunch Room, 1926. (1904 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926 Dunn City Directories)

Pope Printing Company Building

123 South Railroad Avenue, circa 1904, contributing building

A single-story three-bay painted brick Italianate-style building, the single aluminum-framed entry door in the middle bay is surrounded by glass block. Glass block is also laid up in the two window openings flanking the center bay. Above the storefront is brick corbelling below large recessed brick panels, additional brick corbelling, and a crenellated parapet. The pilasters at the edges of the building have regularly spaced horizontal bands consisting of one course of projecting brick below one course of brick laid in a dogtooth pattern. Pope Printing Company occupied this building for over forty years. The *Dunn Dispatch*, later the *Daily Dispatch*, was housed here in the 1920s. (1904 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

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NORTH WILSON AVENUE (West side)

Professional Building

115 North Wilson Avenue, 1948, contributing building

Local physician Harvey A. Eldridge built this two-story three-bay red brick building (no distinct style). The aluminum-framed storefront with a rounded fabric awning has an off-center recessed entry door. The upper-story windows are aluminum-framed units with rowlock sills. The roof drains to the front through scuppers into two downspouts with decorative cast iron hopper heads displaying the initial "E." Granite coping caps the façade parapet. Late 1950s occupants included Dr. Eldridge, Howard G. Godwin, attorney, Young-Lamm and Tayler, attorneys, and Home Beneficial Life Insurance Co. (1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories, Harnett county register of deeds)

Hank's Beauty Salon Building

117 – 119 North Wilson Avenue, circa 1945, contributing building

This single-story four-bay red brick building with granite coping has a centered recessed entry with two wood three-quarter-light entry doors leading to separate business establishments. The metal-framed display windows sit above red brick bulkheads. A soldier course runs across the top of the storefront opening. The roof drains to the front through scuppers emptying into two downspouts with large hopper heads. Occupants included the Ladies Quality Shop, clothing store, 1957, Lucille's Shop, clothing store, 1959, and Hank's Beauty Salon, late 1950s. (1943 Sanborn Map, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

SOUTH WILSON AVENUE (West side)

Warren Building

108 – 110 South Wilson Avenue, circa 1925, contributing building

A Commercial Style-influenced two-story six-bay brick building with a flat canopy supported by square wood posts, the aluminum-framed storefront set into the original storefront opening has a recessed entry with a pair of aluminum-framed doors. The upper-story window openings with granite sills and lintels now contain aluminum-framed windows. Above the windows a soldier course spans the façade, with a simple cornice of dentiled brick above. Occupants included R.L. Godwin, attorney, 1918, Godwin and Williams, attorneys, 1926, Rose's 5-10-25 Cent Store

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(side), 1957, and the Office Equipment and Supply Company, 1959. (1913, 1925 Sanborn Map, 1918, 1926, 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

Jewel Box Building

112 South Wilson Avenue, circa 1935, noncontributing building

A two-story brick building now covered in stucco, the storefront is shifted to the right and has a deeply recessed aluminum-framed entry. Display windows leading to the entry have colored glass bulkheads and transoms. To the left of the storefront is a large display window above a stuccoed bulkhead. The storefront is sheltered by a flat awning covered in a fabric valance supported by square wood posts. In the upper story is one modern off-center square window. The Jewel Box was located in this space in the late 1950s. (1925, 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories)

(parking lot)

Wellons Mercantile Building

120 – 124 South Wilson Avenue, circa 1935, contributing building

A single-story seven-bay painted brick building with two expansive storefront openings; both openings are now filled with aluminum-framed storefront systems with a total of three entries, all flush with the adjacent display windows. Rounded fabric awnings stretch across the storefronts. A simple corbelled cornice completes the façade. The north wall of this building was a common wall with the Dunn Theater Building, which is gone and replaced with a parking lot. Occupants have included Wellons Mercantile, The Town Book Shelf, and Arthur V. Suggs, optometrist, 1957. (1925 and 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories, Harnett County Register of Deeds)

Davis Flower Shop Building

126 - 128 South Wilson Avenue, circa 1935, contributing building

This single-story four-bay painted brick building has an aluminum-framed storefront with two single aluminum-framed doors, one to the right side of the storefront opening and the second in a recessed entry toward the left. Brick bulkheads have been covered in most places with corrugated metal panels. A rounded fabric awning spans the entire façade and wraps around the corner onto the East Cumberland Street elevation over the corner aluminum-framed display window. At the west end of the side elevation is a large flush aluminum-framed storefront with a

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pair of aluminum-framed doors. The parapet along both elevations is capped with a terra-cotta coping. The Davis Flower Shop occupied this building in the late 1950s. (1925 and 1943 Sanborn Maps; 1957, 1959 Dunn City Directories, Harnett County Register of Deeds)

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Dunn Commercial Historic District in Dunn, Harnett County, is made up of fifty-five contributing resources including commercial/governmental buildings, the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad right-of-way, and residences, all constructed between circa 1886 and 1959, as well as ten noncontributing resources. Buildings within this district are part of Dunn's commercial development from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries, with the construction of the earliest buildings being a direct result of the economic prosperity realized when the railroad extended to this community in 1886.

Dunn is situated in the eastern part of Harnett County, where lands were heavily wooded and logging was the primary industry up until the late nineteenth century. When Dunn was selected as a station for the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad in 1885, the economic and built environment drastically changed. Within two years of the railroad's arrival Dunn was incorporated, lots were surveyed and sold, and numerous businesses sprang up in downtown Dunn, built for the first time of masonry in lieu of the previous wooden structures. From 1885 to 1890 the population grew by over thirty-five percent, and recreational pastimes, including a skating rink, tennis club, and bicycle club, were available before the turn of the century. By 1921, all the modern conveniences of the day were in place, including electricity, telephone and telegraph service, indoor plumbing, and paved streets and sidewalks. Throughout the first half of the twentieth century the local economy became less reliant on logging and more heavily supported by the textile and tobacco industries. Large warehouses began springing up on the perimeter of the downtown district. Building construction in the downtown continued well into the 1940s and 1950s.

The Dunn Commercial Historic District contains a fine collection of mostly one- and two-story commercial buildings. Many have intact upper-story facades with brick corbelling. After the town was laid out and lots surveyed, the local government opened streets and avenues as necessary, thus controlling the progression of construction throughout the downtown business district. The newer buildings with simpler masonry detailing are further away from the railroad tracks. The earliest commercial buildings are single-story brick structures scattered in the 100 block of South Railroad Street. While small in massing, they exhibit some of the more intricate brick detailing found in downtown Dunn. In addition to commercial buildings the district also includes a former post office, hotel, and movie theater, as well as two residential dwellings. The

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district meets Criterion A in the areas of commerce, and community planning and development, and Criterion C for architecture, as it contains buildings exemplifying early and mid-twentieth-century architectural styles, including Commercial Style, Queen Anne, and Italianate. The period of significance spans from 1886 to 1959. Dunn continued to develop after 1959 but this development was not of exceptional significance.

Historical Background – Commerce Context

Dunn is located in the southeastern portion of Harnett County, a geographically diverse region of North Carolina, with heavily wooded acreage and swamplands in the east, and flatter farm lands with rich topsoil to the west. During the late eighteenth and mid-nineteenth centuries, Harnett County's chief industries were logging and turpentine production, with a small amount of cotton and corn farming. Logs and turpentine were transported from the community that later became known as Dunn to a river landing near Averagesboro and rafted down the Cape Fear River to Wilmington. The raftsmen would then walk home from Wilmington (Green, 8).

Dunn was originally named Wade, after the first postmaster, J.J. Wade. In 1882 Wade established a post office in the rear of his general store and served as the first postmaster (*The Daily Record*, September 24, 1981). Prior to this Averagesboro had been the center of communication for Harnett County. It was in Averagesboro that the old stage coach road from Raleigh to Fayetteville converged with the road from Smithfield. Averagesboro was also the hub for ferry traffic as well as pole boats traveling down the Cape Fear River from Fayetteville to Wilmington (Green, 8).

In 1885 the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad (later known as the Atlantic Coast Line) began construction of a short cut railroad from Wilson to Fayetteville, and selected Dunn, located fifty miles from Wilson, to be a station along this new line. Construction was completed in October of 1886. The railroad right-of-way through Dunn was obtained from Henry Pope, who deeded to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad a strip of land 130 feet wide sixty-five feet in each direction from the center of the rails (Green, 8 – 9). The first railroad depot was a box car. C.D. Jacobs was transferred to Dunn from Wilmington to serve as the first railroad agent and was appalled by the conduct of the local citizens. With the multitude of logging camps throughout eastern Harnett County, Dunn had developed quite a reputation for rugged behavior. Mr. Jacobs quickly requested and was granted a transfer because he “declared that the men of the area were the roughest, wildest, and worst set of rowdies he had ever been sent among” (Green, 138).

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Two blocks were reserved for public use and became known as Lucknow Square, and was bounded by West Broad Street on the north, the railroad on the east, West Divine Street on the south and Lucknow Alley to the west. This site later became known as one of the largest wagon cotton markets in the country (Green, 10). West Cumberland Street now intersects Lucknow Square. The (former) Dunn Post Office (101 West Broad Street, 1937) now sits on the northern half of Lucknow Square between West Broad Street and West Cumberland Street. The rescue squad occupies a building constructed in 1999 on the southern half of Lucknow Square between West Cumberland Street and West Divine Street. It was common for farmers coming to town to hitch their horses at Lucknow Square.

As expected the railroad brought about change and growth to this small, rugged community. The town was officially incorporated on February 12, 1887, with a five member commission established as the form of government (Green, 12, 20). After the arrival of the railroad J.J. Wade, James A. Taylor and others erected wooden stores near the railroad. Within two years of the first lot being sold there were twelve stores, a hotel, a carriage factory, residences and offices (*Chatham Record*, 1887). The first Hotel was the Hotel Divine built by Allen B. Godwin in 1889 (Green, 138). Population had increased from 300 in 1885 to 415 in 1890, a thirty-eight percent increase in five years (US Bureau of the Census).

Soon after incorporation the town was fenced in to keep out wandering livestock. Five public gates were installed, with several private gates approved by the town for those who did not live close to a public gate (*The Daily Record*, September 24, 1981). The exact location of these gates is not known, but they were roughly located on west Broad Street near the intersection of General Lee Avenue, on North McKay Avenue near Horton Lane, on East Broad Street near Wilmington Avenue, on East Pope Street near South Wilmington Avenue, and on South Magnolia Avenue near East Godwin Street (Green, 17).

Dunn's postal service was housed in numerous locations during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The first postal service was established on June 9, 1882 in what was then known as Wade, named for Julius J. Wade, the first postmaster. It was housed in a store building in an oak grove to the rear of the original Methodist and Presbyterian churches. The mail at that time went from Wade to Averasboro and then to Raleigh. In 1886 Mr. Wade constructed a commercial building near the railroad, in the block immediately west of what became known as Lucknow Square, on the north side of Broad Street. Once completed the post office was moved to this new location. On September 24, 1886 the name of the community and thus the post office was changed to Lucknow, and a few months later, on November 26, 1886, the name was changed to Dunn. The name Dunn was in honor of Bennett R. Dunn, the civil engineer who laid

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out the roadbed and personally supervised the construction of the railroad between Wilson and Fayetteville (Green, 32 – 33). Gilford W. Cox was appointed postmaster on April 12, 1889 and the office was moved once again to the east side of the railroad into a small wooden building on South Railroad Avenue. A.R. Wilson became postmaster on June 23, 1897 and served until December 16, 1909. During this time the office was moved south in this block to the corner of South Railroad Avenue and East Cumberland Streets (Green, 34). As the volume of mail increased the post office moved to the one-story annex of the Cottdale Hotel on South Clinton Avenue. Between 1917 and 1918 Congressman Hannibal Godwin secured an appropriation from the Federal Government to purchase a site and erect a federal post office building in Dunn. Due to WWI the funds were never disbursed. It wasn't until 1936 when Congress appropriated funds for public buildings and sites that Congressman J. Bayard was successful in obtaining \$86,000.00 for a site and building in Dunn. In a deed dated April 30, 1937, the Atlantic Coast Railroad Company ET. AL. deeded to the United States of America a building site for the first Federal Building in Dunn. The lot is situated on West Broad Street, adjacent to Lucknow Alley. The lot was purchased for \$5000. The building project was begun by Jones Brothers and Company of Wilson, North Carolina, and the post office was completed and occupied in the spring of 1938 (Green, 34 – 35). This remained the site of the post office until 1981. The building now houses the Daily Record. The post office moved at that time to its present day location at the corner of Divine and Clinton (Green, 38).

As Dunn grew and prospered with the coming of the railroad, the town enjoyed many social, educational, and recreational luxuries. By 1890 a private school had been established, and popular pastimes included a skating rink, tennis club, and bicycle club. In 1922 The Woman's Club of Dunn established the first public library (Green, 143).

The downtown Dunn streetscape at the turn of the twentieth century was a combination of single-story wood stands in between newly built two-story brick buildings. While exact locations of businesses are unknown, newspaper advertisements from issues of the *Democratic Banner* published in 1902 combined with the 1904 Sanborn map tell us that buildings and stands were occupied by dry goods stores, hardware companies, grocers, furniture stores, banks, dentists, doctors, and lawyers. Business establishments included P.G.A Tart and Son, grocers, Hood and Grantham, druggists, Pearsall's Market, Wade Hardware Company, and the P.T. Massengill Dry Goods Store. The Bank of Dunn and the Farmers and Merchants Bank were also present at that time. By 1915 most of the wooden structures had been replaced by modern two-story brick buildings. Downtown buildings were occupied on the first floor with a multitude of grocers (twenty-nine in 1918, thirty-eight by 1926), dry goods merchants, drug stores, a theater, and hardware stores, with predominantly attorneys, insurance agents, doctors, and dentists

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conducting business in the second stories. Toward the late 1920s gas stations began springing up on the fringe of the district, and the newly constructed 300 block of East Broad Street housed smaller grocers, dry goods merchants, and cafes. Established businesses by 1918 included the U.S. 5 & 10 Cent Store (O.P. Shell Building, 115 East Broad Street), Morgan Brothers Feed Store (121 East Broad Street), White Way Theater (106 East Broad Street), Hood and Grantham Drug Store (112 East Broad Street), R.G. Taylor Dry Goods Company (120 East Broad Street), and Purdie-Hooks Company, grocers (100 West Broad Street). By the late 1920s, the Johnson Cotton Company (114 West Broad Street), Dunn Furniture Company (116 West Broad Street), Baer Dry Goods Store (203 East Broad Street), W.H. Sultan and Company, dry goods (215 East Broad Street), Dunn Seafood Market (305 East Broad Street), and Driver's Sewing Machine Repair (117 – 119 South Railroad Avenue) were among the businesses that had established themselves downtown.

During the 1930s new buildings began replacing earlier structures at a few locations in the 100 blocks of East Broad Street and South Wilson Avenue and the 200 block of East Broad Street. The Turlington Building (129 East Broad Street) replaced two existing buildings at the east end of the 100 block of East Broad Street. First-floor tenants included a bus station, followed later by a jewelry store and drugstore, with numerous professionals occupying the second-floor offices. Across the street at 201 East Broad Street, the two-story Prince's Department Store Building replaced an earlier three-story building on this corner. At the southern end of the 100 block of South Wilson Avenue the Wellons Mercantile Building (120 – 124 South Wilson Avenue) and the Davis Flower Shop Building (126 – 128 South Wilson Avenue) were built on the same lots previously occupied by a large livery offering wagon sales and cleaning. During the 1940s these replacement buildings housed automobile sales and service operations, following the changing trends in transportation.

New construction continued throughout the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. During the 1930s single-story smaller brick buildings were built in the 100 block of North Clinton Avenue, occupied by cafes, barbers, physicians, and cleaners (Florence's Café Building, 106 -108 North Clinton Avenue, and Dr. Conrad B. Codrington Building, 110 – 114 North Clinton Avenue). The 1940s brought new development to the 100 block of North Wilson Avenue with the construction of two buildings on previously vacant land. The Professional Building (115 North Wilson Avenue) housed a medical practice, as well as lawyers and insurance agents. The adjacent Hank's Beauty Salon Building (117 – 119 North Wilson Avenue) was occupied by clothing stores and beauty salons. New construction also continued into the 1950s in the 200 block of North Clinton Avenue with the Modern Laundry and Cleaners Building (200 North Clinton Avenue), the

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Tractor and Auto Supply Company Building (202 – 204 North Clinton Avenue), and the FCX Farm Machine Service Building (210 North Clinton Avenue).

By the end of the period of significance, 1959, the small grocers and dry goods stores had mostly been replaced by specialty clothing, gift shops, florists, and cafes. Professional offices by this time began moving to the first-floor spaces. A large grocery store was constructed just beyond the eastern boundary of the district on East Broad Street, while smaller groceries were now present in outlying neighborhoods. Drug stores remained in the downtown, some in business since the early part of the twentieth century.

Throughout the twentieth century Dunn continued to be the most heavily populated municipality in Harnett County. To this day its population is more than double that of any of the other four incorporated municipalities, these being Erwin, Angier, Coats, and Lillington, the county seat. Dunn has also maintained by far the largest collection of early twentieth-century commercial buildings in Harnett County.

Historical Background – Community Planning and Development Context

The town was laid out immediately following the construction of the railroad tracks. Reverend N.B. Hood, a local surveyor, was responsible for overseeing the laying-out of the town and the drawing of the initial maps. Dunn was laid out in the form of a circle with a radius of one-half mile from the center of the tracks. The center of the circle is in the exact center of the junction of Broad Street and the railroad tracks. This spot is permanently marked with an iron buggy axle driven in the ground (Green, 10). Within this circle is a series of streets, avenues, and alleys laid out in a grid pattern, with streets running perpendicular to the tracks and avenues and alleys running parallel (Green, 9). The first sale of lots was conducted from the rear of a train on October 26, 1886 (*The Daily Record*, September 24, 1981). On September 24, 1886 the name of the post office was changed from Wade to Lucknow, and a few months later, on November 26, 1886, the name was changed to Dunn. The name Dunn was in honor of Bennett R. Dunn, the civil engineer who laid out the roadbed and personally supervised the construction of the railroad between Wilson and Fayetteville (Green, 32 – 33).

Streets, avenues, and alleys, although designated on the initial town maps, were opened only as it became necessary (Green, 12). Broad Street is the oldest street in Dunn, and by the time the railroad was completed was the only established street in the downtown. This being the case, any time a train would stop in town it would block the only “official” railroad crossing, sometimes

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for hours at a time, causing quite a stir. In September of 1887 the local citizens requested that Cumberland Street be opened for at least two blocks to each side of the railroad tracks to provide an additional crossing (Green, 18). It wasn't until January of 1917 that all streets and avenues were given east, west, north and south designations (Green, 21).

As with most small towns, public utilities and modern conveniences were established in Dunn during the first two decades of the twentieth century. While electric streetlights had been in place since 1888, it was in 1902 that Dunn built its own generating plant in the 100 block of East Cleveland Street and began furnishing electricity for residential use (Green, 18). A centralized water system was established by 1905, supplied from a local well. Eventually a water plant and pumping station were constructed on a site purchased from Erwin Cotton Mills to obtain water from the Cape Fear River (Green, 19). On September 17, 1907 the town board approved a franchise agreement with Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company to supply phone services to Dunn. The first telephone exchange was on the second floor of a wooden building located on the southeast corner of South Wilson Avenue and East Broad Street (Green, 19). A referendum was held on August 1, 1912 to issue bonds for a central sewer system. This referendum passed, and the sewer was in place within two years. At the town board meeting held May 17, 1915 residents were told they had thirty days to tap onto the new sewer system, those who failed to do so would have their water closets removed (Green, 20). Between 1916 and 1917 bonds were issued for an extensive street paving and sidewalk building program (Green, 21).

Architectural Context

After the town of Dunn was laid out in 1886, streets and avenues were opened only as it became necessary. As a result the earliest and most elaborate buildings are located closer to the railroad tracks, with more restrained structures, constructed later when commercial architecture had become less ornate, found toward the edges of the district. The earliest buildings in the Dunn Commercial Historic District are located on the southern portion of the 100 block of South Railroad Avenue, within the 100 block of East Broad Street, and the two residential properties found in the 200 block of East Edgerton Street. The single-story grouping of buildings on South Railroad Avenue contains two examples of delightful turn-of-the-century masonry buildings (121 and 123 S. Railroad Avenue, circa 1904) with Italianate detailing including decorative corbelling, blind arcades, intricate brickwork, and crenellated parapets. Similar detailing is found within the 100 block of East Broad Street where the scale of the streetscape changes from single-story construction to two-story construction, with the one exception being the three-story Fitchett Drug Store (128 E. Broad Street, circa 1912). Italianate-style commercial streetscapes are

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common in downtowns that developed around railroad tracks at the turn of the century. Improved transportation made “modern” building materials such as sashes, doors, and moldings more readily available. With the much improved local economy, as a result of the railroad industry, property owners and merchants began replacing simple wood-framed stands and single-story wooden commercial structures with mostly two-story brick commercial buildings constructed in the popular Italianate style using the latest in materials and building trends. Fine examples of Italianate detailing, including masonry hood moldings, projecting masonry piers, corbelled pendants, arched windows, and corbelled cornices, with one example of a dentiled metal cornice, are found along the 100 block of East Broad Street both on the north and south sides. The two residential resources in the district (219 and 225 E. Edgerton St., circa 1900) are examples of simple housing forms with restrained Queen Anne detailing such as steeply pitched roofs and wrap-around porches. Queen Anne-style architecture was popular toward the end of the nineteenth century. Residences built in this style are asymmetrical and can be highly decorative with wrap-around porches, a variety of materials and colors, colored glass, towers, and tall chimneys.

The 100 block of East Broad Street also contains examples of Commercial Style architecture. Buildings constructed in the Commercial Style are identified by their plain, flat appearance sometimes relieved by the use of brick patterns. Parapets are often uninterrupted by projecting cornices. The Fleishman Brothers Company Building (107 E. Broad St., circa 1925) is a two-story red brick structure with flat panels of exquisite brick detailing and a stepped parapet capped in granite. The Turlington Building (129 E. Broad St., circa 1930) is a two-story brick building with sharply contrasting stone detailing, bands of patterned brickwork, and a parapet with a central peak. Prince’s Department Store (201 E. Broad St., circa 1930) is also a two-story brick building, but the decorative brickwork of this building takes the form of basketweave patterned panels beneath the second-story windows, bands of soldier courses, and full-height pilasters decorated with granite panels. Further east and south within the district you find mostly single-story painted brick buildings with simple corbelled brick cornices and modest detailing.

Colonial and Classical Revival styles were often used for institutional buildings such as hotels, banks, and governmental buildings during the first half of the twentieth century. Common details include symmetrical facades, displaying classical elements in a more modern setting of relatively plain red brick surfaces, with stone used for watercourses, friezes, pilasters at entries, and copings. Double-hung windows with blind round-arches are also common. The Colonial Revival style was used for such institutional buildings in Dunn at this time as well. The (former) Dunn Post Office (101 W. Broad St.) has a balanced symmetrical facade and stone watercourses or belt courses. This style was typical of governmental buildings constructed during the 1930s

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with funds provided by federal building programs. The Cottondale Hotel (116 – 124 S. Clinton Avenue) is more Classical Revival in style with rustication, round keystone arches, and stone beltcourses and panel details.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

UTM References (cont.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 5. 17 717460 Easting 3909640 Northing | 7. 17 717180 Easting 3909780 Northing |
| 6. 17 717380 Easting 3909600 Northing | 8. 17 717040 Easting 3909980 Northing |

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the Dunn Commercial Historic District is shown by the heavy black line on the accompanying district map at a scale of one inch equals 141 feet.

Boundary Justification:

The Dunn Commercial Historic District boundary is drawn to include the densest collection of contributing downtown commercial buildings, as well as two houses to the north which abut the district and do not connect easily to the mostly residential property to the north, south, and east due to a loss of integrity in the blocks surrounding these properties. A mid- to late twentieth-century strip commercial development is to the west. The boundary excludes areas characterized by modern construction and areas of a residential nature that would be more appropriately part of a residential historic district rather than a commercial one.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Dunn Commercial Historic District
Harnett County, North Carolina

The following applies to all photographs:

Dunn Commercial Historic District

Dunn, NC 28334

Harnett County

Diane M. Young, photographer

February, 2009

Location of negatives – North Carolina Historic Preservation Office

#1 - Streetscape, Wilmington & Weldon Railroad right of way

#2 - Streetscape, 100 block East Broad Street, south side, and 100 block South Wilson Avenue, east side (112 S. Wilson Avenue is a noncontributing building).

#3 - Streetscape, 200 block East Edgerton Street, north side, residential resources

#4 - Cottondale Hotel

#5 - (former) Dunn Post Office

#6 - Streetscape, 100 block East Broad Street, north side

#7 - Streetscape, 200 block East Broad Street, north side

#8 - Streetscape, 300 block East Broad Street, north side